

are not of uniform excellence as to pose and fidelity of coloring, there is a determination to improve manifest and some of the color photographs must be pronounced superb. There is not a weak plate in the March number and the "Barn Swallow" alone is worth the price of the magazine.

Of course the periodical aims primarily to reach juvenile readers, but none of us have outgrown an appreciation of the faithful delineation of bird life. Hence a word of suggestion may not be deemed amiss. First by all means let the proper *scientific name* be attached to every bird-plate. A modestly printed Latin name (in parenthesis if you like) will not scare the children and will greatly add to the value of a picture in the eyes of those who care to know a bird accurately in its relationships. And along this same line too, while a bird is being painted so truly, why not tell us briefly what sex is before us? what seasonal phase of plumage is depicted? and what locality that precise subject hails from? All these points would add to the educational value of "*Birds*" and need not interfere in the least with its commendable work for the children.—W. L. D.

An invitation to attend the regular meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club, to be held in honor of the late Major Charles E. Bendire, has been received. The meeting, was held at the home of Otto J. Zahn, 427 S. Hope St., Los Angeles, March 27, 1897.

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### NEW MEMBERS ELECTED.

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The April election of new members resulted in the election of the following persons :

*For Active Membership* : Frank M. Woodruff, Assistant Curator Chicago Academy of Sciences ; Henry K. Coales, 136 Washington street, Chicago, Ill. ; W. S. Colvin, Ossawatomie, Kansas.

*For Honorary Membership* : Otto Widmann, Old Orchard, Missouri.

*For Associate Membership* : John W. Daniel, Jr., Lynchburg, Va.

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### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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*The Birds of Colorado*, by W. W. Cooke, Bulletin No. 37, Technical Series No. 2, State Agricultural College, Agricultural Experiment Station. A catalogue of 363 species of birds which have been found within the state, 230 of which are summer residents, and 51 are stragglers. The introductory chapter gives us a glimpse of Colorado topography and cli-

mate while defining the scope of the work in hand and suggesting profitable work in future. Following the introductory note, nine pages are devoted to a "Classification of Colorado Birds" under twelve heads according to their occurrence in the state, as "Residents", "Winter Visitants", regular and irregular, "Summer residents" subdivided under five heads according to their breeding range. "Migrants" regular and irregular from different directions, and "Stragglers." "Dates of Migration" for three localities are compared with dates of arrival of the same species at St. Louis, Mo. An exhaustive bibliography is followed by "The History of Colorado Ornithology," beginning in 1807. In the body of the work the 363 species are treated in the order of the A. O. U. check list, each one being fully annotated. The vertical breeding range of breeding birds is given, adding greatly to the interest in such species. This work easily takes first rank among the published state catalogues of the west. A map of the state illustrating the topography would add greatly to the value of the work.

*The Story of the Farallones*, by C. Barlow and H. R. Taylor. This neat little booklet contains twenty-eight photo-engravings of more than usual excellence, illustrating the physical features and bird life of that paradise of the birds; which, with the eleven pages of well written text descriptive of the island life and features, makes one feel well acquainted with the place. The fact that the islands have lately been closed to visitors makes it the more necessary to possess one of these booklets, which can be purchased of H. R. Taylor, Alameda, Calif., at the very low price of fifty cents. No one can afford to be without a copy.

*Catalogue of a Collection of Birds Made by Doctor W. L. Abbott in Madagascar, with Description of Three New Species*, by Charles W. Richmond. From the Proceedings of the United States National Museum, Vol. XIX, pages 677-694. An annotated catalogue of 83 species representing 39 families of birds.

*A Preliminary List of the Birds of Okanogan County, Washington*, by William L. Dawson. Reprinted from the *Auk*. An annotated list of 143 species positively known to occur in the county, and a hypothetical list of ten additional species. This list, the author tells us, was made during a residence of fourteen months at Chelan, on Lake Chelan, June, 1895 to August, 1896, during the intervals of labor as a Home Missionary. The annotations are well selected, intended to acquaint the reader with the habits and nesting of the species whenever possible, and in many cases with the characteristic note and song. Coming from a region so

little known, it is doubly welcome as a contribution to the subject of distribution.

"*Some Common Birds in their Relation to Agriculture*," by F. E. L. Beal, B. S., Assistant Ornithologist, Biological Survey, May, 1897. Farmer's Bulletin No. 54, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. In this Bulletin there are treated in their relation to agriculture, the Cuckoos, the Woodpeckers, Kingbird, Phoebe, Bluejay, Crow, Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, Meadowlark, Baltimore Oriole, Purple Grackle, the commoner Sparrows, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Swallows, Cedarbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, House Wren and Bluebird. A statement of the sorts of food eaten is based upon stomach contents of a sufficient number of specimens to make the statement reliable. The object of the bulletin is to show that while the species under consideration may seem injurious sometimes, or may even be injurious to some extent, they are on the whole, beneficial to the agriculturalist on account of the hordes of noxious insects destroyed. The effort of our government to determine the exact relation of the birds to agriculture is a laudable one, and the conclusions reached may well be heeded.

*The Museum*, Vol. III, Nos. 6 and 7, April and May, 1897. W. F. Webb, Albion, N. Y.

*The Nidologist*, Vol. IV, No. 5, April, 1897. H. R. Taylor, Alameda, Calif.

*The Osprey*, Vol. I, No. 8, April, 1897. W. A. Johnson, Galesburg, Ill.

*The Oologist*, Vol. XIV, Nos. 4 and 5, April and May, 1897. F. H. Lattin, Albion, N. Y.

*Bulletin Oologist's Association*, No. 1, March 15, 1897.

*The Fern Bulletin*, Vol. V, No. 2, April, 1897. W. N. Clute, Binghamton, N. Y.

*The Observer*, Vol. VIII, No. 5, May, 1897. E. F. Bigelow, Portland, Conn.

*The Microscopic Bulletin and Science News*, Vol. XIV, No. 2, April, 1897. Queen & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

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**WANTED!** Clean, unbound back numbers of the *Auk*, and *Ornithologist and Oologist*. Will pay good cash prices for the right numbers.—HENRY R. BUCK, *Wethersfield, Conn.*